IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Elco, et al.

Serial No.: 09/208,962

Group Art Unit: 2839

Filing Date: December 10, 1998

Examiner: N. Abrams

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DATE OF DEPOSIT: DETOWN 28, 2001

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231.

TYPED NAME: Steven B. Samuels REGISTRATION NO.: 37,711

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first office action after the filing of request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

PATENT - 2 -**DOCKET NO.: 4414D/FCI-2598** In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with \Box the first or \Box second After Final Submission, therefore: Certification in Accordance with §1.97(e) is attached; or The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p) is attached. In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed Ø after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, therefore: Certification in Accordance with §1.97(e) is attached; or The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p) is attached. \boxtimes In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the Issue Fee, therefore included are: Certification in Accordance with §1.97(e); and the submission fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p). Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are \boxtimes enclosed herewith. Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith

In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and

the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies

EXCEPT THAT:

are not enclosed herewith.

DOCKET NO.: 4414D/FCI-2598

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PATENT

In accordance with §1.98(d), copies of the following references listed on
the attached Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed herewith because they were
previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
in patent application(s) for which a claim for priority under 35
U.S.C.§120 have been made in the instant application:
Copies of references [list as appropriate] listed on the attached Form
PTO-1449 were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and
Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. , filed .
If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the

Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3050. This form is submitted in duplicate.

English language abstracts have been provided for references **EA**, **EB**, **EC** which are not in the English language.

Please note that many of the references listed have been cited in prior application numbers 08/903,762, filed July 31, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,146,203, which is a continuation of 08/842,197, filed April 23, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,741,144, which is a Continuation of 08/452,020, filed June 12, 1995 which is abandoned. Nevertheless, copies of all of the references have been enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

Date: December 28, 2001

Steven B. Samuels Registration No. 37,711

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